

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request allowance of the present case in view of the following remarks.

Claims 45-59, 64 and 100-104 are currently pending.

Double Patenting

Claims 45-59, 64 and 100-104 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 19-34 and 39 of copending allowed Application No. 09/336,036. In response, Applicants have submitted herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in order to obviate this rejection. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Summary

In view of the above remarks and accompanying Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: June 10, 2004

Mark T. Skoog
Mark T. Skoog
Reg. No. 40,178

MTS:MED:kf

